

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 09543 301154 Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 IO-13 DPW-01 AID-20 RSR-01

/127 W

----- 075505

O P 301050 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2385

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 9543

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, VS

SUBJECT: ICCS: AMBASSADOR GAUVIN COMMENTS ON CANDEL WITHDRAWAL

1. SUMMARY. DURING ONE- HOUR PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 30 AT ICCS SECRETARIAT BUILDING, CANADIAN HEAD OF DELEGATION AMB. GAUVIN PRESENTED MAIN POINTS OF SHARP'S STATEMENT OF MAY 29 ANNOUNCING CANDEL WITHDRAWAL AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS FROM ASSEMBLED PRESS. GAUVIN REFUSED TO BE DRAWN OUT IN CONDEMNING BY NAME ANY DELS OR PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT. HE BLANDLY STRESSED THAT ALL PARTIES MUST COOPERATE IF ICCS IS TO PERFORM ITS FUNCTION AND WITH LITTLE ELABORATION DESCRIBED MAIN STUMBLING BLOCKS ENCOUNTERED IN ICCS AS FAILURE TO OBTAIN EFFECTIVE CEASE- FIRE, FAILURE OF CERTAIN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 09543 301154 Z

PARTIES TO LIVE UP TO AGREEMENT, AND DIVISIONS WITHIN ICCS. ENTIRE EFFECT OF GAUVIN'S REMARKS WAS ANTI-CLIMACTIC AND PRESS WAS VISIBLY UNHAPPY THAT GAUVIN DECLINED TO NAME NAMES AND LEVEL MORE OUT-SPOKEN CHARGES. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING ONE-HOUR PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 30 AT ICCS SECRETARIAT BUILDING, CANADIAN HEAD OF DELEGATION AMB GAUVIN REVIEWED MAIN POINTS OF EXTAFF MINISTER SHARP'S STATEMENT OF MAY 29 ANNOUNCING CANDEL WITHDRAWAL FROM ICCS NO LATER THAN JULY 31. FLANKED BY SOMBER GEN MCALPINE, CANDEL MILITARY COMMANDER, GAUVIN EMPHASIZED THAT CANDEL WAS NOT CRITICIZING PEACE AGREEMENT BUT, BECAUSE "CANADIAN CONCEPT OF FUNCTIONING OF ICCS HAS NOT BEEN ACCEPTED, IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL CONCERNED THAT CANDEL WITHDRAW." GAUVIN ALSO STRESSED THAT ICCS COULD NOT ENSURE PEACE IN VIETNAM SINCE THAT DEPENDS ON PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT.

3. GAUVIN THEN ANSWERED A NUMBER OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS. HE ASSURED THE PRESS THAT DESPITE WITHDRAWAL PLANS, CANDEL WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE AS IT HAS OVER THE PAST FOUR MONTHS IN IMPARTIAL FASHION USING "OPEN-MOUTH" POLICY UNTIL REPLACED OR UNTIL JULY 31 WHICHEVER IS EARLIER. CANDEL PLANS TO ASSUME ICCS CHAIRMANSHIP IN JUNE, BUT WOULD STEP ASIDE IF REPLACEMENT NAMED. GAUVIN PERSONALLY FAVORED ASIAN COUNTRY FOR PROPER BALANCE AS CANDEL REPLACEMENT, AND LATER MENTIONED MALAYSIA AS ONE POSSIBILITY.

4. IT IS GAUVIN'S BELIEF THAT TWO ICCS DELS HAVE BEEN GREATLY AFFECTED BY FAILURE OF SOME PARTIES TO FAITHFULLY IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT AND THAT IDEOLOGICAL AFFINITIES MAKE IT EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR THEM. DESPITE STRONG DIFFERENCES ON MATTERS OF PRINCIPLE, GAUVIN DID NOT BELIEVE TWO OTHER DELS DESIRED CANDEL DEPARTURE. (EVERYONE UNDERSTOOD THESE REFERENCES TO MEAN HUNGDEL/ POLDEL.) REGARDING MAIN STUMBLING BLOCKS ENCOUNTERED BY CANDEL IN ICCS, GAUVIN LISTED: (A) FAILURE TO OBTAIN EFFECTIVE CEASE-FIRE; (B) FAILURE OF CERTAIN PARTIES TO LIVE UP TO SPIRIT OF AGREEMENT IN INTRODUCING MILITARY TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT INTO SOUTH VIETNAM, IN FAILING TO RESPECT NEUTRALITY OF CAMBODIA/ LAOS AND IN VIOLATING SOUTH VIETNAMESE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION; AND (C) DIVISION WITHIN ICCS WHICH BECAME MORE AND MORE EVIDENT.

5. GAUVIN ALSO SUGGESTED FOLLOWING CHANGES IN ARTICLES PERTAINING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SAIGON 09543 301154 Z

TO ICCS: (A) CORRECT CONFLICT BETWEEN PRINCIPLE OF UNANIMITY AND OBLIGATION OF DELS TO INVESTIGATE; (B) ADD AGREEMENT BETWEEN OPPOSING PARTIES ON LINES OF DEMARCATION; (C) ADD PROVISION FOR COMPLETE GUARANTEE OF SAFETY AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR ICCS; AND, (D) AVOID HAVING ICCS MEMBERS WHO ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH ONE OR TWO OF THE FOUR PARTIES. IN RESPONSE TO FINAL SPOKEN QUESTION, GAUVIN REVEALED THAT OTTAWA ALREADY ENVISAGES

SOME
SORT OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN SAIGON FOLLOWING ICCS
WITHDRAWAL AND HE HAD DISCUSSED SUCH REPRESENTATION DURING
MEETING
MAY 29 WITH FORMIN LAM.

COMMENT: ATMOSPHERE AT PRESS CONFERENCE WAS DECIDEDLY GLOOMY TO
POINT OF BEING FUNEREAL. GAUVIN WAS DULL AND BLAND IN COMPARISON
TO PREVIOUS PERFORMANCES AND CLOSELY FOLLOWED GUIDELINES AND TONE
AS CONTAINED IN SHARP' S STATEMENT. HE REFUSED TO BE DRAWN
OUT BY PRESS IN CONDEMNING SPECIFIC DELS OR PARTIES TO THE
AGREEMENT BUT RATHER CONVEYED ATTITUDE THAT CANDEL WANTS TO
LET BYGONES BE BYGONES. ENTIRE CONFERENCE WAS ANTI- CLIMATIC AND
PRESS WAS UNHAPPY THAT GAUVIN REFUSED TO NAME NAMES AND MAKE ANY
CHARGES.

WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON09543
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730555/aaaajvmo.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <10-Oct-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980306
Subject: ICCS: AMBASSADOR GAUVIN COMMENTS ON CANDEL WITHDRAWAL
TAGS: MARR
To: BIEN HOA
BUDAPEST
EA
JAKARTA
JEC PARIS
KUALA LUMPUR
OTTAWA

SECSTATE WASHDC

WARSAW

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005